

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15133 270744Z

17
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 AGRE-00 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /032 W
----- 012582

R 270715Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9147
INFO AMCONSUL LEINIGRAD
AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 15133

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, UR
SUBJ: FOOD SUPPLIES: ASHKHABAD, SEPT 22

1. EMBOFFS SURVEYED ASHKHABAD'S LARGEST OPERATING KOLKHOZ MARKET SEPT 22 AT 0730, AND SEVERAL STATE MEAT STORES LATER IN THE DAY. MEAT STALLS AT THE MARKET WERE NOT OPERATING YET, BUT A LOCAL CONTACT TOLD US PORK AND BEEF PRICES HAD RECENTLY RISEN AS HIGH AS R 5 PER KILO. WE WERE TOLD SUCH PRICES HAD MADE MEAT AN UNAFFORDABLE LUXURY FOR MANY WORKERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE STATE STORES HAD POOR QUALITY BEEF FOR SALE AT R1.90 PORK FAT AT R 2.30, MUTTON AT R1.80, LOTS OF FISH AND A FEW DUCKS. NO CHICKEN. ONLY BREAD AVAILABLE IN MARKETS OR INTOURST RESTAURANT WAS BEIGE LEAVES (AT 20 KOPECKS APIECE) AND SMALL WHITE ROLLS.

2. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SUPPLIES SEEMED BARELY ADEQUATE. PRICES POTATOES: 80 KOPECKS/KILO; CABBAGE, 80 K; CUCUMBERS, R 1; LOCAL PEPERS, 70 K BULGARIAN PEPERS, R 1; GARLIC, R 3; GRAPES, 50K; GREEN BEANS R 2; SMALL EGGPLANTS 50 K APEACE; POMEGRANATES, R 2; TOMATOES; R 1; PEARS, R 2; SMALL ONIONS 30 K; THURSDAY WAS FISH DAY AT LOCAL EATING ESTABLISHMENTS.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD SHORTAGE, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, SUPPLIES, FOODS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW15133
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760363-1180
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760917/aaaaaoah.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOOD SUPPLIES: ASHKHABAD, SEPT 22
TAGS: PINT, SOCI, ECON, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006